

**LAKE AGASSIZ WATER AUTHORITY**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Fargo Commission Chambers  
December 17, 2025**

A meeting of the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) board of directors was held December 17, 2025, at the Fargo Commission Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Chair Mahoney at 9:15 a.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Timothy Mahoney  
Vice Chairman Brandon Bochenski  
Director LaVonne Althoff  
Director Rick Bigwood  
Director Ann Broussard  
Director Dave Carlsrud  
Director Bernie Dardis  
Director Tom Erdmann  
Director Alan Idso  
Director Tim Meyer  
Director Keith Nilson  
Director Jim Schmaltz  
Director Travis Schmidt  
Secretary Duane DeKrey

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Associate Member Brett Lambrecht  
Associate Member Jim Moe  
Associate Member Carol Siegert

Others in attendance are listed on the registration sheet (Annex I).

The meeting was recorded to assist with compilation of the minutes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Mahoney announced the Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP) Educational Session will be held following the board meeting at the Fargo Civic Center in the Sky Commons Room beginning at 11:30 a.m.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Director Schmidt to approve the board meeting agenda. Second by Director Schmaltz. Upon voice vote, motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Director Dardis to approve the November 12, 2025, LAWA Board meeting minutes as distributed. Second by Director Broussard. Upon voice vote, motion carried.**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**2025 Budget Analysis Statement** - - Merri Mooridian, Deputy Program Manager, RRVWSP Administration, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, reviewed the Draft Budget Analysis Statement for the period of January 1, 2025, to November 30, 2025 (Annex II).

Total income received through November was \$141,679, with expenses totaling \$322,222. The bank balance at the end of November 2025 was \$70,796.

**Motion by Director Nilson to approve the Budget Analysis Statement for the period of January 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025. Second by Director Schmidt. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

### **2025 Bills Paid**

Ms. Mooridian referenced the bills paid since the November board meeting, which were for cost share and consultant services.

**Summary of Dues Paid** - - Ms. Mooridian stated the table in the meeting packet shows \$35,200 has been submitted for 2025 LAWA membership dues.

**Consultant Billing Summary** - - Kurt Ronnekamp, Black & Veatch (BV), reviewed the RRVWSP Program Billing Summary (Annex III) for January through November 2025. November billings are \$1.5 million. Of that amount, 57 percent are subconsultant billings and 43 percent BV billings. For the year, consultant billings total \$15.3 million. Of that amount, 48.2 percent are BV billings, and the remaining 51.8 percent are subconsultant billings.

## **PROJECT AGREEMENTS UPDATE AND PLAN**

**Interim Financing Agreement Series F** - - Katie Schmidt, Ohnstad Twichell, reported the final version of the Series F Interim Financing Agreement has been circulated. The process of obtaining signatures is underway with loan closing scheduled for December 19.

**Assurance Policy** - - Ms. Schmidt stated LAWA is developing a draft Assurance Policy in conjunction with the Cities of Grand Forks and Fargo. The intent is to first bring a resolution to the LAWA Board for adoption, followed by presentation to Grand Forks and Fargo for

consideration. Once adopted, the Assurance Policy would be incorporated into the Water Delivery Agreements between LAWA and the participating entities.

Vice Chair Bochenski stated if the users are ultimately unable to receive water from the main pipeline, they should not be required to pay for it. Users who are not directly connected to the main pipeline or served through river conveyance, but who may be paying a portion of the project costs, should have the ability to step out of the project if legislative support is not secured to deliver the necessary branch pipelines and related infrastructure. The proposal would allow for a decision point after two legislative sessions following completion of the main project, providing sufficient time to assess progress and traction toward funding and construction of those branch pipelines.

Vice Chair Bochenski emphasized the importance of aligning users who are directly connected to the pipeline or river conveyance with smaller users who depend on future branch infrastructure. It is critical to support the smaller users, as they need to support the main pipeline, and likewise, LAWA and its members will need to support those branch pipelines when they advance. He noted this alignment is essential to the overall success of the project and expressed confidence that a policy can be developed that is reasonable to all parties.

Vice Chair Bochenski further expressed appreciation to the City of Fargo, noting that Fargo is assuming a significant share of the financial burden, particularly with respect to the Assurance Policy.

Finally, Vice Chair Bochenski added that while engaging users through the Memorandums of Commitment (MOCs) has been beneficial, LAWA will need to move beyond the MOCs. He noted the MOC is not a binding commitment and emphasized the need to formalize the Assurance Policy contractually so all parties clearly understand their rights and obligations.

Director Carlsrud said he apologizes if he misunderstood, but this discussion went back far enough with Valley City that he does not recall branch pipelines being a part of the conversation at that time. As a result, he conveyed to his commission that Valley City would have protection under the Assurance Policy, which ultimately, they do not. Valley City has experienced some financial challenges, and they are uncertain whether they can cash-flow the obligation without some form of backstop. At the present, they are in a difficult position. He does not know whether other small users were under the same impression that an Assurance Policy was in place, but Valley City was. He stated he carried that message, and if he conveyed it in error, it rests on him.

Vice Chair Bochenski said as demonstrated with Series F, when Valley City stepped back, Grand Forks and Fargo stepped in. He emphasized that everyone is willing to continue the conversation. Any negotiation would focus on a "look-back" approach, particularly regarding investments made in Series D2 when additional users were anticipated. Prior to Series D2, only Grand Forks and Fargo were included. This would be a discussion involving the Series D2 financing participants. If an arrangement can be reached, he believes all parties are open to it. No one wants to leave anyone behind, and that is part of working as a team. They will do what they can to help.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**LAWA Financial Advisory Committee (FAC)** - - Maureen Storstad, Co-Chair, LAWA FAC, reported on the items discussed at the FAC meeting on December 12 and recommended for full board approval.

### **2026 Preliminary Budget Recommendation**

Ms. Storstad reviewed the 2026 Preliminary LAWA Budget (Annex IV), noting the legal/professional services, dues and operating cost estimates totaling approximately \$540,000 are conservative.

A proposed state cost-share reimbursement of \$259,940 for LAWA expenses was also outlined, with emphasis placed on identifying which costs are eligible for reimbursement. This leaves a \$250,000 line-item, Participant Transfers, to cover LAWA expenses. Currently, the Cities of Grand Forks and Fargo have been covering these costs representing approximately 80 percent of the total.

Ms. Storstad stated the FAC discussed sharing the \$250,000 proportionately in the 2026 budget, suggesting the remaining 20 percent be allocated among the users. The table attached to the budget shows the \$250,000 broken out proportionately by user.

Ms. Storstad said the FAC recommends approval of the 2026 Preliminary Budget with the follow-up information, which is the table dividing out the expenses proportionately, knowing there are still discussions to be had relating to a staffing plan.

**Motion by Vice Chair Bochenski to approve the 2026 Preliminary LAWA Budget, including proportional allocation of the \$250,000 Participant Transfers cost. Second by Director Schmidt. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

### **LAWA Staff Planning Recommendation**

Ms. Storstad reported the FAC heard a presentation from Katie Schmidt, Ohnstad Twichell, regarding three staffing options for LAWA moving forward. The committee discussed how staffing and administrative functions should be handled during the construction phase, prior to the project becoming fully operational.

Mr. Storstad stated FAC's recommendation is to pursue a lower-cost option for administrative support rather than selecting one of the three options presented. Instead, the committee recommends requesting additional administrative services from Ohnstad Twichell on an interim basis for a 90-day period, while a long-term operations and staffing solution is developed. These services would include organizational support with Garrison Diversion continuing to assist with meeting agendas, packets and minutes.

Ms. Storstad added the motion also provides that if Ohnstad Twichell is unable to provide additional support services, the Cities of Fargo and Grand Forks would serve as a backup and provide administrative support to LAWA. She further noted since the FAC meeting, there has been a request to consider extending the interim period to 120 days rather than 90 days.

Vice Chair Bochenski said he believes this is a good solution. Ultimately LAWA will need an executive director and a defined leadership structure, as strategic administration and oversight are necessary. He emphasized that project oversight should be separate from those performing the work, and that legal and administrative functions must remain independent. It is time for LAWA to begin standing on its own, and this approach represents a step in that direction. While gradual, he expressed support for relying on Ohnstad Twichell to provide additional support initially, while keeping costs in mind. Cost-sharing discussions with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) have taken place and are aligning well. Vice Chair Bochenski concluded that although he was not originally in favor of this approach, he now believes the incremental, cost-conscious transition is a sound plan.

Chair Mahoney noted they will continue to evaluate what Garrison Diversion can provide; however, this plan is intended to begin establishing LAWA's own separate administrative structure.

Vice Chair Bochenski stated as part of the split-delivery approach, or what he prefers to call shared responsibility, each entity has defined roles. There is significant work to be done with the Corps of Engineers related to Lake Ashtabula, water delivery and contractual matters. He expressed support for having two separate teams working concurrently, stating it is necessary and will need to exist regardless in order to move work forward efficiently.

Director Erdmann noted that at the previous board meeting he stated hiring an executive director is approximately five years premature. He said Garrison Diversion has done an excellent job providing information and support at no cost to LAWA. While he acknowledged there will be a need for an executive director in the future, he does not believe now is the appropriate time, particularly with only approximately 25 percent of the pipeline installed.

Director Erdmann added that although split delivery has been discussed, it has not been formally decided. Under a split-delivery approach, LAWA would assume responsibility for the water once it enters Lake Ashtabula, meaning Garrison Diversion would still be involved with the pipeline from the McClusky Canal to the outlet at Baldhill Dam. He noted Garrison Diversion staff would later comment on what work they have completed and what services they are willing to continue providing. He emphasized the importance of clearly understanding what Garrison Diversion is willing to do moving forward.

Director Erdmann further questioned what the job description of an executive director would entail to ensure there is no duplication of effort or cost, particularly if LAWA is paying for administrative support while Garrison Diversion continues to provide similar services at no cost.

Chair Mahoney clarified there would be no vote at this meeting on hiring an executive director, and that the discussion and action item pertain only to interim administrative support.

Director Erdmann stated he understands the intent; however, during the FAC meeting, the recommendation was to request additional administrative support from Ohnstad Twichell. He noted that by the end of the discussion, there appeared to be agreement to consider an executive director position at the lowest-cost option. At this time, he stated he does not know when or how costs associated with such a position would begin to be incurred.

Chair Mahoney responded that the executive director position would remain a topic for future discussion and would not be filled immediately. The board would begin with interim administrative support and move forward from there. Ohnstad Twichell may provide recommendations regarding future staffing needs, but any decision would ultimately rest with the LAWA Board.

Director Erdmann stated he does not yet know what the defined duties or job description will be for Ohnstad Twichell during the proposed 120-day interim period.

Vice Chair Bochenski responded the administrative support would largely consist of duties currently being performed by Mr. Bogar. There has been significant billing associated with those services, and the board is ready to move away from that arrangement. He emphasized the importance of establishing greater independence, particularly avoiding situations where consultants involved in the project are also providing administrative oversight. There has been an issue with conflict of interest at times, which is a concern that has also been acknowledged by Garrison Diversion.

Vice Chair Bochenski further stated during the initial 90 days, Ohnstad Twichell would focus on developing a staffing plan and assuming the administrative role currently performed by Mr. Bogar through Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services (AE2S). While he agreed there is value in easing into a staffing plan, he expressed concern that LAWA is already behind on several other matters that need to be addressed.

Director Erdmann said if LAWA is going to begin incurring an additional \$300,000 to \$400,000 in costs that had not been spent prior to the past year, and which were largely paid by Fargo and Grand Forks, that warrants careful consideration. While he agrees if administrative costs are incurred, the smaller users who are participating in the project should share in those costs, he questioned whether it is necessary to implement cost-sharing at this time. He noted that while Vice Chair Bochenski believes this would be needed within the coming year, he feels it is likely four to five years away.

Ms. Storstad said she believes it would be beneficial to phase in funding contributions from all the users while working through both the short- and long-term staffing plans. This approach would provide an opportunity to more clearly define roles and responsibilities moving forward.

**Motion by Vice Chair Bochenski to approve additional administrative support services from Ohnstad Twichell for LAWA on a 120-day interim basis. If Ohnstad Twichell is unable to provide these services, the Cities of Fargo and Grand Forks shall provide administrative support to LAWA. Second by Director Brousaard.**

Director Dardis asked whether LAWA has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in place with Ohnstad Twichell and whether the firm has agreed to provide the proposed 120-day interim services.

Ms. Schmidt stated she, John Shockely and Mr. Bogar discussed the recommendation following the FAC meeting. Ohnstad Twichell believes it can provide the requested staffing work, with Mr. Bogar serving in an advisory role to assist organizational control and administrative support as needed. Ohnstad Twichell could also coordinate with Fargo and Grand Forks, if necessary.

Director Dardis asked whether LAWA has a fiscal note identifying the cost of the proposed services.

Ms. Storstad said a fiscal note is not yet available.

Chair Mahoney asked Mr. Bogar whether a MOU would be required.

Mr. Bogar stated that from a cost standpoint, the details are still being developed. The current budget includes approximately \$100,000 for AE2S services, which would likely be reduced as his role transitions, with those funds shifting to Ohnstad Twichell. From an overall budget perspective, the bottom-line numbers would not change.

Director Carlsrud asked whether it would be more appropriate to address this matter once a financial plan is in place.

Vice Chair Bochenski responded that there is sufficient room in the current budget and suggested including a “not-to-exceed” amount.

Ms. Storstad reiterated the preliminary budget numbers are very conservative on the expense side, with the FAC’s intent to come in below those projected costs.

Ms. Schmidt stated that Ohnstad Twichell could separate invoices between administrative and legal services to ensure proper allocation to the correct budget categories.

Director Erdmann noted that the proposed budget includes \$187,000 for Ohnstad Twichell, \$100,000 for AE2S, and \$200,000 for administrative support services, and that expenditures would not exceed those amounts in the coming year. He clarified that the Ohnstad Twichell line item is primarily for legal fees and any new contract would be paid from the \$200,000 administrative support line item.

Vice Chair Bochenski confirmed that understanding. He expects the actual amounts to be lower and that conservative budgeting allows for flexibility and reserve building. The board could cap spending for the 120-day period or leave it open, recognizing the \$200,000 annual limit.

Director Meyer expressed concern that small users face many unknown costs and asked when they would know their actual cost obligations.

Mr. Bogar stated these topics will be addressed during the educational session. The finance and engineering teams are continuing to refine cost estimates, including operations and maintenance costs, and user outreach efforts will focus on helping users understand the variables affecting those costs. Preliminary numbers have already been shared, including during a presentation to the City of Lisbon.

Director Schmidt commented that significant construction remains and many tasks still need to be completed, which will take time. He emphasized the importance of addressing operational and administrative planning sooner rather than later. He suggested placing a cap on the 120-day services at one-third of the annual administrative support budget to preserve funds in the event the arrangement is not extended through the remainder of 2026.

**Motion by Vice Chair Bochenski to amend the original motion to include \$70,000 for the 120-day interim period to approve additional administrative support services from Ohnstad Twichell for LAWA. If Ohnstad Twichell is unable to provide these services, the Cities of Fargo and Grand Forks shall provide administrative support to LAWA. Second by Director Brousaard.**

Director Erdmann suggested hearing the proposal that the FAC asked Garrison Diversion to provide before voting on the motion.

Chair Mahoney called on Kip Kovar, District Engineer, Garrison Diversion, to address the board.

Mr. Kovar explained beginning in 2001, Garrison Diversion, in coordination with the federal government, was tasked with completing the Needs and Options and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) studies for the RRVWSP. Garrison Diversion served as a cooperating agency and worked with the local users to identify water needs in the Red River Valley and evaluate options for water delivery.

Mr. Kovar stated a user group was needed to support the project, and Garrison Diversion advocated for the formation of LAWA, which was established in 2003. The North Dakota Century Code provides that Garrison Diversion shall provide administrative and legal support for LAWA.

Mr. Kovar distributed a document prepared by Garrison Diversion (Annex V) outlining administrative and technical support provided to the project, including an estimated financial outlay of the approximately \$23 million incurred by Garrison Diversion supporting the RRVWSP since LAWA's formation, largely staff administrative time and director time that can be allocated to furtherance of the Project.

Mr. Kovar noted following completion of the EIS in 2008, the federal project stalled, and a Record of Decision could not be obtained in Washington, DC. Garrison Diversion continued advancing the RRVWSP during that period, and the strategy for transitioning to a state-led plan was developed in collaboration with the LAWA.

Mr. Kovar further noted that during this period, Garrison Diversion provided financial modeling, construction oversight, easement acquisition, project administration and accounting services, as well as communication and public educational support, all with input from LAWA. He emphasized that Garrison Diversion also has the ability to cost share with the DWR.

Chair Mahoney asked whether the ability to cost share would mean that, as LAWA assumes more administrative responsibilities, those costs would be eligible for cost-share funding.

Mr. Kovar responded that eligibility for cost sharing would be determined by the DWR and would depend on what expenses are deemed eligible.

Chair Mahoney said, as he understands it, the current budget that is submitted to the DWR, includes \$1 or \$2 million identified for administrative costs.

Mr. Kovar replied Garrison Diversion currently pays for all administrative costs. No cost-share reimbursement is provided by the State on those administrative services.

Mr. Kovar commented moving forward, Garrison Diversion would be willing to continue providing administrative assistance to LAWA at no cost. He outlined the services Garrison Diversion could continue to provide, including administrative and financial administration, meeting support, communication and educational support, construction oversight, legislative and engineering support, as well as continued leadership collaboration.

Mr. Kovar added Garrison Diversion has long-tenured staff who have built really strong working relationships with numerous state and federal agencies, and he noted it would be beneficial to continue leveraging those relationships.

Chair Mahoney noted this analysis is very helpful and noted it is easy to underestimate the level of investment that has already gone into the project. He expressed confidence that Ohnstad Twichell would take into account both what it can provide and what Garrison Diversion can continue to provide in order to keep costs down. He emphasized the board's desire to remain fiscally responsible.

Director Erdmann stated this aligned with his concerns, noting the importance of avoiding duplication of costs. If an executive director position is pursued in the future, the responsibilities should be clearly defined, particularly in light of Garrison Diversion's willingness to continue providing day-to-day administrative support at no cost.

Chair Mahoney concluded by reiterating Mr. Kovar's point that established relationships are extremely important and will continue to benefit the project. He believes both teams are committed to moving the project forward.

Director Carlsrud questioned why, given the experience Garrison Diversion brings to the project, would it be preferable for Ohnstad Twichell to provide administrative assistance.

Vice Chair Bochenski responded that Ohnstad Twichell would be assuming the role currently performed by Mr. Bogar.

Vice Chair Bochenski then asked Mr. Kovar whether he had any concerns with the staffing plan presented to the board.

Mr. Kovar said he has not reviewed it in detail and noted that the decision ultimately rests with LAWA.

Vice Chair Bochenski asked Mr. Kovar for his general thoughts.

Mr. Kovar said he believes Garrison Diversion can continue to do significant work for LAWA over the next several years and, in doing so, help save LAWA a considerable amount of money. However, LAWA likely needs a single point of contact for coordination, which has been identified as an issue in the past and was one of the reasons Mr. Bogar was hired.

Vice Chair Bochenski asked if there were any aspects of the plan that did not provide sufficient separation of roles or fully utilize the capabilities of all parties involved.

Mr. Kovar said he could not answer that question because he does not know how Ohnstad Twichell would be utilized and has not been in those discussions.

Vice Chair Bochenski said when referencing Garrison Diversion's financial support of the RRVWSP and LAWA, it should be noted that these funds are not free money, but rather property tax dollars generated through a mill levy paid by the 28 counties that are members of Garrison Diversion.

Mr. Kovar said that is correct, as mill levy money received from the 28-member counties pays the administrative salaries and overhead of the Garrison Diversion staff, who work on the RRVWSP, as well as numerous other projects that Garrison Diversion works on each year.

Chair Mahoney stated to date, administrative functions often have been shared, with Fargo and Grand Forks performing portions of the administrative role and Garrison Diversion performing others. As responsibilities are more clearly delineated, it will help clarify roles and reduce confusion. Mr. Bogar has not traditionally been viewed as part of the administrative team but rather has been more involved in strategic efforts. The board will need to review Garrison Diversion's proposal in more detail to determine what services Garrison Diversion would continue to provide and what responsibilities would transition to LAWA, making sure there is no duplication of costs.

Chair Mahoney noted several counties have recently questioned the value of paying a one-mill levy to Garrison Diversion. It is important to continue demonstrating to the public that those funds are being used effectively and provide value to the project. He expressed concern about increasing LAWA's costs if some services can continue to be provided by Garrison Diversion and stated the planning process should help clarify and address those issues.

Director Dardis stated he agrees with Director Erdmann that while the board's discussion on staffing is appropriate and productive, he believes the proposed staffing plan is premature. The role that Garrison Diversion has played in supporting both LAWA and the RRVWSP cannot go unnoticed. While acknowledging the use of taxpayer dollars, he stated that Garrison Diversion has a professional, experienced team working with us. If improvements are needed in communication or coordination, those issues should be addressed on both sides of the aisle. While it is positive to be having these discussions, he does not support incurring additional staffing costs at this time.

Chair Mahoney said Grand Forks and Fargo have assisted in the administrative roles to assist LAWA. He believes LAWA is now mature enough as an organization to begin assuming more responsibilities. He described the proposed action as a small but necessary step and explained the staffing plan would return to the board for further review; if the board does not support it at that time, it could be rejected. He added that he is very much in support of this motion.

Director Carlsrud said given the use of taxpayer dollars, it is especially important to avoid duplication of costs.

Vice Chair Bochenski noted Ohnstad Twichell will focus on developing a long-term staffing plan so the board is not committing to anything beyond the 120-day interim period.

Ms. Storstad added the FAC will continue working on both the short- and long-term staffing plans, which will be presented to the board for consideration.

**Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Idso and Mahoney. Those voting nay: Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Absent: none. Motion failed.**

Director Schmidt suggested a more in-depth discussion on this issue may be warranted and proposed the possibility of holding a separate meeting to address it.

Chair Mahoney stated the recommendation came out of the FAC meeting with a unanimous vote for recommendation to the full board, and noted it is unusual for the board to turn it down.

Ms. Storstad added the FAC will meet in January to develop a more detailed plan to bring back to the board at its next meeting.

#### LAWA Administrative Support

Ms. Storstad referenced the Amendment to Client, AE2S Letter Agreement, Amendment No. 2 (Annex VI), which amends the current agreement for services provided by Mr. Bogar through AE2S. An earlier amendment extended his services through the end of 2025. This amendment provides a 90-day extension through March 31, 2026, at a cost of up to \$66,000.

**Motion by Director Dardis to approve Amendment No. 2 extending the term of the agreement between LAWA and Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services for strategic support and communications services through March 31, 2026, not to exceed \$66,000. Second by Director Bigwood. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: Bochenski and Erdmann. Motion carried.**

#### 2025-2027 Biennium Work Plan/Budget

Mr. Kovar referenced the revised 2025–2027 Biennium Work Plan/Budget dated December 4, 2025, totaling \$273 million (Annex VII). He reviewed the highlighted changes, which reflect actual construction-phase service costs for each contract and actual construction costs based on recent bid openings. The numbers are lower than what was in the previous biennium budget, as bids came in approximately \$15 million lower and construction phase services were also slightly less.

Mr. Kovar noted revisions to Item 8, McClusky Facilities Wetwell Excavation & Site Development, Contract 1, to incorporate an updated cost estimate with bidding anticipated in the spring. Revisions were also made to Item 10, McClusky Facilities Utility Extensions Design, which now includes funding in anticipation of future work related to power supply.

As a result of these updates and the project coming in under budget, Item 16, Contingency, was increased from approximately \$11 million to \$18 million.

**Motion by Director Schmaltz to approve the revised 2025-2027 RRVWSP Work Plan/Budget dated December 4, 2025. Second by Director Erdmann. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

**LAWA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** - - Al Grasser, Chair, LAWA TAC, reported on the items discussed at the TAC meeting on December 8. The committee will put together a list of its functions and responsibilities as they become more involved in the operational side of the RRVWSP. There are reoccurring meetings between Garrison Diversion and their consultants regarding water treatment, and the suggestion was made to get some of the LAWA operators involved in those discussions.

Chair Grasser went over the action items reviewed by the TAC that are being recommended for full board approval today.

### Change Orders

#### **Change Order No. 7 – Garney Construction**

Change Order No. 7 (Annex VIII) on Contract 5B with Garney Construction is relating to liquidated damages and associated adjustments for items including crop damage, deflected pipe, right-of-way drainage, dewatering, road maintenance and repair, easement access modifications, topsoil maintenance, and time extension. These changes result in a credit of (\$738,856.45) and include a 207-day contract time extension, which is being granted due to work not being performed in the winter months.

#### **Change Order No. 2 – Oscar Renda Contracting**

Change Order No. 2 (Annex IX) on Contract 5C with Oscar Renda Contracting is associated with a permit delay involving a gas line company. The cost impacts of this change order will be offset using the trench-bottom stabilization allowance line item, which has seen minimal utilization. A contract time extension is also being granted due to work not performed in the winter months, consistent with the approach taken for Change Order No. 7 under Contract 5B.

**Motion by Director Erdmann to approve: 1) Change Order No. 7 on Contract 5B with Garney Construction for a credit of (\$738,856.45) and a 207-day contract time extension and 2) Change Order No. 2 on Contract 5C with Oscar Renda Contracting with a 241-day/90-day/60-day contract time extension for milestone completion/substantial completion/final completion, respectively at no cost. Second by Director Nilson.**

Director Erdmann asked what percentage of the contract was paid out.

Mr. Ronnekamp said they recently released some retainage on the project, but they are still holding approximately \$1.3 million on the \$48 million contract. All the field work is complete.

Director Carlsrud asked if these numbers are agreed upon by both sides.

Mr. Ronnekamp confirmed both sides agree on the numbers.

**Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

## Construction Bid Awards

### **Contracts 6B and 6C**

Bid opening for RRVWSP Transmission Pipeline East, Contracts 6B and 6C, took place on November 19, 2025. A total of three bids were received: 1) Carstensen Contracting, Inc., 2) Harper Brothers Construction, LLC and 3) Belt Construction, Inc.

The engineer's estimate was \$144,212,712. Carstensen Contracting, Inc. was the apparent low bidder at \$125,741,949.

Mr. Grasser referenced the engineer's recommendation letter (Annex X). Based on BV's review of the bids, the prequalification of Carstensen Contracting, Inc. as a pipeline general contractor for the RRVWSP, their current work on Contracts 5D and 6A, and their confirmation that they have the capacity to manage multiple contracts concurrently, BV is recommending Garrison Diversion award Contracts 6B and 6C to Carstensen Contracting, Inc.

### **Contract 7A**

Bid opening for RRVWSP Transmission Pipeline East, Contract 7A, was held on November 21, 2025. A total of four bids were received: 1) Carstensen Contracting, Inc., 2) Belt Construction, Inc., 3) Harper Brothers Construction, LLC and 4) Ruby-Collins, Inc.

The engineer's estimate was \$63,232,878. Carstensen Contracting, Inc. was the apparent low bidder at \$58,959,992.

Mr. Grasser referenced the engineer's recommendation letter (Annex XI). Based on BV's review of the bids, the prequalification of Carstensen Contracting, Inc. as a pipeline general contractor for the RRVWSP, their current work on Contracts 5D and 6A, and their confirmation that they have the capacity to manage multiple contracts concurrently, BV is recommending Garrison Diversion award Contract 7A including Bid Alternatives 1 and 2 to Carstensen Contracting, Inc.

Mr. Grasser added we are familiar with Carstensen Contracting and are happy with their current work. Their ability to handle this amount of work was investigated, and we are very confident that they are able to take on this dollar amount of work within the timeframes of construction.

Mr. Ronnekamp reported by combining Contracts 6B and 6C, a \$3 million reduction was achieved by completing those as a single project. On the engineering side, costs were reduced by approximately \$1.5 million, resulting in a total cost savings of around \$4.5 million.

Chair Mahoney asked what the total savings would be for both contracts.

Mr. Ronnekamp stated compared to the engineer's estimate and what was included in the work plan, the total was about \$15 million.

Vice Chair Bochenski asked whether the contracts should be approved prior to the funding being finalized on December 19.

Mr. Ronnekamp said the contracts can be recommended for award at this time, noting the contracts are not actually being signed yet.

Vice Chair Bochenski asked when will the contracts be signed.

Mr. Ronnekamp stated the contractor is required to provide bonds and insurance, which is expected to take two to three weeks. Once those requirements are met, the contracts could be signed.

Director Edrman questioned whether these contracts will be completed in two years.

Mr. Ronnekamp replied the contracts are scheduled to run from 2026 through the end of 2028, for a total duration of three years.

**Motion by Second Vice Chair Bochenski to accept Black & Veatch's recommendations to award: 1) Contracts 6B and 6C as a combined contract to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. for a grand total of \$125,741,949 and 2) Contract 7A (base bid plus bid Alternatives 1 and 2) to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. in an amount up to \$58,959,992 contingent upon available funding and authorize an agreement for the work once Carstensen Contracting has provided the required bonds and evidence of insurance. Second by Director Bigwood. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

#### Task Order 5662 – Construction Phase Services

Mr. Grasser referenced Task Order 5662, Construction Phase Services (Annex XII). This task order provides construction observation and engineering support during construction of Contracts 6B, 6C and 7A, which is the 24.1-mile segment of the RRVWSP transmission pipeline. Other services to be provided include task order management and administration, surveying, field testing, and inspections. The cost of the task order is \$17,125,000, which represents approximately 9.3 percent of construction.

**Motion by Director Carlsrud to approve RRVWSP Task Order 5662, Contracts 6B, 6C and 7A Construction Phase Services in the amount of \$17,125,000. Second by Director Dardis. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso, Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

#### Biota Water Treatment Plant Power Supply

Mr. Grasser reported the location under consideration for the Biota Water Treatment Plant (BWTP) lacks the robust, multi-phase electrical power and natural gas infrastructure required to operate a plant of the size needed for the project. A presentation outlining the different scenarios was provided at the TAC meeting as follows:

- **Option 1: Full Electrical Service (11 MW)**
  - Capital costs: \$40 million
  - Lowest total life cycle cost (\$68 million) and includes the firm power rate

- **Option 2: Reduced Electrical Service (3 MW) with Onsite Generation for High Service Pumping**
  - Capital costs: \$62 million
  - Life cycle cost \$93 million
- **Option 3: Onsite Power Generation with Natural Gas (No Electrical Service)**
  - Capital costs: \$57 million
  - Life cycle cost \$127 million

Mr. Grasser noted that Option 1 is recommended due to its lower capital and life cycle costs. He explained that \$3 million is included in the work plan to allow for early procurement of long-lead electrical equipment and to initiate negotiations with electrical suppliers. This will enable conceptual designs and eventual execution of service contracts.

Paul Boersma, BV, shared the presentation on power supply, stating the engineering team evaluated the three options for providing preliminary electrical service at the BWTP and recommends proceeding with Option 1. This is the most cost competitive option in terms of both capital cost and a life cycle cost and is the most reliable. If the board approves this recommendation and the allocation of \$3 million for procurement of 230KV TAP and associated equipment, Garrison Diversion will submit a request to Central Power for a detailed interconnect study.

Mr. Boersma explained this would initiate a multi-year process in which the various layers of utilities would evaluate their individual needs and determine what is required to make this power available.

Director Schmidt asked whether, in addition to working with Central Power on the study, the project is also coordinating with Central Power regarding the WAPA allocation. Mr. Boersma said that is correct. WAPA serves as the primary power generator, which then flows through Central Power and, ultimately, the local power cooperative.

Director Schmidt asked whether direct coordination with WAPA has been considered, as that could potentially provide additional cost savings. Typically, cooperatives take the WAPA allocation and distribute it among their members, and that going directly to WAPA might be an alternative worth exploring.

Mr. Boersma said the team will take that suggestion under consideration.

Director Schmidt asked whether redundant feeds would be included.

Mr. Boersma confirmed redundant feeds would be included.

Director Carlsrud noted the national power shortage and emphasized securing power is a critical component to this project.

**Motion by Director Schmidt to approve proceeding with full electric service for the Biota Water Treatment Plant, along with the submittal of the Basin Electric AQ request and the allocation of \$3,000,000 of the work plan contingency for procurement equipment. Second by Director Carlsrud. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Bochenski, Broussard, Carlsrud, Dardis, Erdmann, Idso,**

**Mahoney, Meyer, Nilson, Schmaltz and Schmidt. Those voting nay: none. Motion carried.**

### **RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT**

**Construction and Work Plan Update** - - Mr. Kovar referenced the December 9, 2025, Work Plan Update (Annex XIII), reporting one contractor did install some pipe last week. This took place in a very wet area where the ground has been freezing, which allows work to continue. In general, most of the pipeline construction is done for the year. He added currently crop damage payments are being processed with landowners.

**2023-2025 Biennium Work Plan/Budget** - - Mr. Kovar referenced the RRVWSP 2023-2025 Biennium Work Plan dated December 4, 2025, in the amount \$246 million. There are no changes at this time.

**Program Schedule** - - Mr. Kovar next referenced the updated RRVWSP Program Schedule dated December 3, 2025.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Bogar said as you recall, monthly board meetings had been scheduled in order to have placeholders on our calendars. Based on the holidays, he suggested skipping the January board meeting and instead hold a FAC meeting in January with any committee recommendations to be brought to the February board meeting., which will take place after the Rural Water EXPO.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **OTHER**

**Motion to adjourn by Director Schmidt. Second by Vice Chair Bochenski. Upon voice vote, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.**

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Timothy Mahoney, Chair

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Duane DeKrey, Secretary

REGISTRATION

LAWA Board Meeting  
Fargo Commission Chambers  
December 17, 2025

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Lisa Schuper	GDCD
Kp Kern	GDCD
Dwane D. Kray	GDCD
Kurt Ronsberg	Black & Veatch
Paul Boersma	B
Bever Eriksen	AELS
Bruce Erickson	Fargo
Tom Smith	Grand Forks
Maureen Storstad	Grand Forks
Dave Piepman	Fargo
Greg Bischoff	GDCD
Ken Vein	GDCD
Don Lingen	SE Water Users
Linda Cook	GDCD
Alan M. Walter	GDCD - WARD Co. REP
Paul Anderson	GDCD - Chairman
Marc Ritchard	Moorhead Public Service
Dave Anderson	Garrison Diversion
John Dingess	City of Fargo
Brian Johnson	East Grand Forks Power & Light
Shawn Gaddie	Advanced Engineering & Environmental Services
Al Grasser	City of Grand Forks
Sarah Hellekson	City of Jamestown
Jarret Bauer	Garrison Diversion
Scott Mehring	Garrison Diversion
Sabrina Scherr	Garrison Diversion



**2025 Budget Analysis Statement**

For the period of January 1, 2025- November 30, 2025

Income	Budget 2025	Actual as of 11.30.25	Balance of Budget
Dues Income	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,200.00	\$ (200.00)
Miscellaneous	\$ 140,099.00	\$ 101,491.50	\$ 38,607.50
Cost Share-Interim Finance	\$ 6,945.00	\$ 4,987.95	\$ 1,957.05
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 182,044.00</b>	<b>\$ 141,679.45</b>	<b>\$ 40,364.55</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Dues Expenses	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,320.00	\$ 180.00
ND Water Users Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
ND Water Coalition	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
ND Rural Water Systems Assoc.	\$ 500.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 180.00
Accounting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Directors Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 550.00	\$ 461.00	\$ 89.00
Construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Engineering	\$ 6,945.00	\$ 4,987.95	\$ 1,957.05
Property Acquisiton/Easements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Admin Expense	\$ 250.00	\$ 83.46	\$ 166.54
Legal/Prof Serv	\$ 408,256.25	\$ 310,370.01	\$ 97,886.24
Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.	\$ 187,982.00	\$ 119,876.27	\$ 68,105.73
AE2S	\$ 181,768.00	\$ 151,987.49	\$ 29,780.51
Garrison Diversion - BHFS	\$ 31,006.25	\$ 31,006.25	\$ -
Garrison Diversion - Effertz Law	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 422,501.25</b>	<b>\$ 322,222.42</b>	<b>\$ 100,278.83</b>

**Bank Activity**

Beginning Bank Balance 1-1-25	\$ 251,616.13
Income Received	\$ 141,679.45
Bank Fees	\$ (277.11)
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 393,018.47</b>

Check #1263 ND Water Coalition	\$ 1,000.00
Check #1264 ND Water Users	\$ 5,000.00
Check #1265 AE2S	\$ 15,568.25
Check #1266 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 16,267.77
Check #1267 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 6,017.00
Check #1268 Garrison Diversion (BHFS)	\$ 7,687.50
Check #1269 Garrison Diversion (Effertz Law)	\$ 3,750.00
Check #1270 AE2S	\$ 10,696.32
Check #1271 AE2S	\$ 15,175.64
Check #1272 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 4,476.50
Check #1273 AE2S	\$ 9,538.71
Check #1274 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 2,095.50
Check #1275 Garrison Diversion (Effertz Law)	\$ 3,750.00
Check #1276 Garrison Diversion (BHFS)	\$ 7,687.50
Check #1277 Garrison Diversion (CS 33)	\$ 3,410.49
Check #1278 AE2S	\$ 11,314.58
Check #1279 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 13,553.00
Check #1280 Countryside Creations	\$ 83.46
Check #1281 Garrison Diversion (CS 34)	\$ 979.52
Check #1282 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 10,825.50
Check #1283 ND Rural Water	\$ 320.00
Check #1284 AE2S	\$ 20,865.07
Check #1285 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 11,688.00
Check #1286 AE2S	\$ 9,460.75
Check #1287 Garrison Diversion(BHFS/Bernhardt)	\$ 7,751.56
Check #1288 Insure Forward	\$ 461.00
Check #1289 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 31,162.00
Check #1290 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 13,722.50
Check #1291 Ohnstad Twichell	\$ 10,068.50
Check #1292 Garrison Diversion(Bernhardt)	\$ 7,879.69
Check #1293 Garrison Diversion (CS 35)	\$ 91.47
Check #1294 Garrison Diversion (CS 35)	\$ 506.47
Check #1294 AE2S	\$ 59,368.17
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 322,222.42</b>

**Ending Bank Balance** \$ **70,796.05**

JANUARY - OCTOBER 2025  
MONTHLY BILLING REPORT  
RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT



PROGRAM BILLING SUMMARY

Firm Name / Task Order Name	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	FIRM TOTALS	
Black & Veatch Corporation	\$ 690,230.60	\$ 668,273.32	\$ 608,791.09	\$ 754,257.27	\$ 737,491.87	\$ 665,304.31	\$ 641,608.03	\$ 796,669.05	\$ 553,539.02	\$ 630,192.89	\$ 6,746,357.45	49.1%
Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC	\$ 382,593.65	\$ 447,090.45	\$ 420,537.27	\$ 427,332.32	\$ 494,175.34	\$ 343,480.67	\$ 385,219.62	\$ 623,022.48	\$ 547,635.35	\$ 515,550.79	\$ 4,586,637.94	33.4%
Materials Testing Services, LLC	\$ -	\$ 98,280.00	\$ 425,011.00	\$ 16,100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 539,391.00	3.9%
Burian & Associates, LLC	\$ 129,671.79	\$ 79,361.61	\$ 49,908.97	\$ 51,102.86	\$ 56,532.37	\$ 54,098.15	\$ 45,457.65	\$ 8,434.98	\$ -	\$ 17,977.65	\$ 492,546.03	3.6%
Ulteig Engineers, Inc.	\$ 26,865.56	\$ 580.00	\$ 22,086.98	\$ 11,948.50	\$ -	\$ 9,380.50	\$ 6,167.50	\$ 2,155.75	\$ 14,466.33	\$ 9,680.50	\$ 103,331.62	0.8%
Prairie Soil Consulting, LLC	\$ 4,460.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,673.13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,133.69	0.2%
American Engineering Testing, Inc.	\$ 2,040.00	\$ -	\$ 1,015.00	\$ 4,150.00	\$ 9,725.50	\$ 2,647.00	\$ 7,096.00	\$ 8,623.00	\$ -	\$ 42,621.35	\$ 77,917.85	0.6%
Veteran Testing and Inspecting, LLC	\$ 4,350.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,556.00	\$ 12,880.00	\$ 10,166.00	\$ 14,723.00	\$ 9,243.00	\$ 56,918.00	0.4%
Material Testing Consultants, Inc.	\$ 518.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 518.00	0.0%
Braun Intertec Corporation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,509.25	\$ 3,132.25	\$ 3,882.25	\$ 2,288.00	\$ 6,622.75	\$ 24,434.50	0.2%
Accurate Inspections, LLC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,314.20	\$ -	\$ 11,144.60	\$ 17,774.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,390.79	\$ 39,623.77	0.3%
Wilson Water Group, LLC	\$ 1,275.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,315.00	\$ 6,895.00	\$ 5,025.00	\$ 5,695.00	\$ 382.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,587.50	0.2%
DocuSign, Inc.	\$ -	\$ 3,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,300.00	0.0%
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.	\$ -	\$ 34,819.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,339.04	\$ 39,046.29	\$ 97,705.07	\$ 24,246.89	\$ 216,157.14	1.6%
Moore Engineering, Inc.	\$ 5,242.42	\$ -	\$ 2,675.00	\$ -	\$ 25,732.40	\$ 105,775.97	\$ 46,570.30	\$ 52,901.00	\$ -	\$ 127,447.82	\$ 366,344.91	2.7%
Houston Engineering, Inc.	\$ 14,448.00	\$ -	\$ 19,052.00	\$ 5,887.00	\$ -	\$ 30,756.50	\$ 1,316.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71,459.50	0.5%
Apex Engineering Group	\$ 26,029.00	\$ 65,822.00	\$ 47,961.00	\$ 87,514.00	\$ 82,979.50	\$ 31,391.00	\$ 11,571.50	\$ 4,204.00	\$ 6,634.50	\$ 4,905.00	\$ 369,011.50	2.7%
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,920.00	\$ 10,920.00	0.1%
<b>MONTHLY TOTALS</b>	\$ 1,287,724.58	\$ 1,397,527.23	\$ 1,597,038.31	\$ 1,364,921.15	\$ 1,413,531.98	\$ 1,273,068.95	\$ 1,204,827.07	\$ 1,570,160.43	\$ 1,236,991.27	\$ 1,406,799.43	\$ 13,752,590.40	100.0%



	Budget	11.30.25 Actual	Draft Budget	Change
Income	2025		2026	2025 - 2026
Dues Income	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,200.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -
Participant Transfers	\$ 140,099.00	\$ 101,491.50	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 109,901.00
**State Cost-Share			\$ 259,940.55	\$ 259,940.55
Cost Share-Interim Finance	\$ 6,945.00	\$ 4,987.95		\$ (6,945.00)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 182,044.00</b>	<b>\$ 141,679.45</b>	<b>\$ 544,940.55</b>	<b>\$ 362,896.55</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Dues Expenses		\$ 6,320.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -
ND Water Users Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
ND Water Coalition	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
ND Rural Water Systems Assoc.	\$ 500.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Org Expenses		\$ 5,532.41	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 3,055.00
Accounting			\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Directors Expense			\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 550.00	\$ 461.00	\$ 550.00	\$ -
Construction				\$ -
Engineering	\$ 6,945.00	\$ 4,987.95		\$ (6,945.00)
Property Acquisiton/Easements				\$ -
Admin Expense	\$ 250.00	\$ 83.46	\$ 250.00	\$ -
Legal/Prof Serv		\$ 310,370.01	\$ 526,488.25	\$ 118,232.00
**Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.	\$ 187,982.00	\$ 119,876.27	\$ 187,982.00	\$ -
**AE2S	\$ 181,768.00	\$ 151,987.49	\$ 100,000.00	\$ (81,768.00)
**Admin Support			\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Garrison Diversion - BHFS	\$ 31,006.25	\$ 31,006.25	\$ 31,006.25	\$ -
Garrison Diversion - Effertz Law	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 322,222.42</b>	<b>\$ 543,788.25</b>	<b>\$ 121,287.00</b>

\$

1,152.30

User	Draft Cost Allocation Model Run (2-Tier / MOC Basis)	Share of Proposed LAWA 2026 Budgeted Staffing Cost
Fargo / West Fargo / Cass Rural	62.06%	\$ 155,144.90
Grand Forks	16.64%	\$ 41,605.71
Valley City	1.18%	\$ 2,947.75
Carrington / Carrington JDA	0.25%	\$ 621.53
Hillsboro	0.22%	\$ 547.08
Mayville	0.22%	\$ 547.08
Cooperstown	0.15%	\$ 370.72
Jamestown	2.94%	\$ 7,350.46
Wahpeton	2.63%	\$ 6,564.99
East Central Regional Water District	1.93%	\$ 4,814.32
Richland County	1.75%	\$ 4,376.66
Southeast Water Users District	1.75%	\$ 4,376.66
Dickey County	1.75%	\$ 4,376.66
Northeast Regional Water District	1.40%	\$ 3,501.33
LaMoure County	1.31%	\$ 3,282.49
Grafton	1.21%	\$ 3,023.69
Traill County	0.53%	\$ 1,334.88
Agassiz Water Users District	0.44%	\$ 1,094.16
Walsh Rural Water District	0.44%	\$ 1,094.16
Lisbon	0.74%	\$ 1,853.58
Sargent County	0.44%	\$ 1,094.16
Washburn	0.02%	\$ 51.02
McLean Sheridan Rural Water District	0.01%	\$ 26.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 250,000.00</b>



## GARRISON DIVERSION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE COMPLETED FOR LAKE AGASSIZ WATER AUTHORITY

DECEMBER 17, 2025

The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) initiated the creation of the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) as a stakeholder entity for added support for and input into the Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP). Garrison Diversion has played a foundational and ongoing role in the LAWA since its establishment by the state in 2003.

*Per ND Century Code (61-39-04), the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District shall provide administrative, technical, and legal support for the authority.*

A conservative estimate for Garrison Diversion’s financial outlays in support of the RRVWSP since LAWA’s inception is **\$23.7M**.

Staff Time	<b>\$ 14,351,316.97</b>
GDCD Directors	<b>\$ 353,250.00</b>
GDCD RRVWSP General Fund Expenses	<b>\$ 4,517,266.80</b>
Series C Financing Agreement Upfront Cash	<b>\$ 3,767,503.97</b>
LAWA Meeting Expenses (excluding staff time shown above)	<b>\$ 712,125.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,701,462.74</b>

Garrison Diversion has provided administrative and technical support for LAWA, integrating stakeholders into the RRVWSP planning and supporting its engagement with potential users since the early 2000s. Several examples are listed below:

To date, Garrison Diversion has provided administrative support for helping facilitate 133 board, 59 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), 7 TAC Operational Planning and 15 Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) meetings for LAWA.

Garrison Diversion’s engineering team, and other staff, has led the permitting, water modeling with the StateMod, user meetings and outreach, providing support for the Needs & Options Report, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) at the federal level for the original federal project, as well as for the current state and local RRVWSP project. Throughout this process, Garrison Diversion regularly included the larger stakeholders’ city engineering professionals, financial professionals, city commissioners, mayors, city administrators and other staff in crucial meetings to provide updates and gain input and consensus from the LAWA stakeholders regarding important issues regarding Project operations, policy considerations, legislative initiatives and water pricing.

Garrison Diversion helped lead the state and local project to construction through the exploration and development of a legal strategy to utilize the McClusky Canal as a cost-saving

option for the RRVWSP, saving the Project over \$300 million. Garrison Diversion led the engagement with the Department of Interior to accomplish the federal approvals needed on the Eastern ND Alternate Water Supply (ENDAWS). Garrison Diversion also successfully intervened in and defended the Project from attack by the State of Missouri.

Garrison Diversion has led financial modeling, construction oversight, easement acquisition, Project administration, accounting services, and communication and education support. Garrison Diversion regularly responds to potential Project user's requests for modeling, financial forecasts, costs estimates and requests for education.

Additionally, Garrison Diversion holds a special designation as a hybrid political subdivision and state agency, known as an "instrumentality of the state" in its role leading the Project, with a fiduciary duty to the state. Garrison Diversion has the ability to receive cost-share through the Department of Water Resources (DWR), facilitating cost-share applications, reports to the State Water Commission and tracks biennium expenses.



## GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERVANCY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL

Garrison Diversion would be happy to continue to work with LAWA to provide the same RRVWSP support LAWA has been receiving since 2003, at **NO COST** to LAWA. It is recognized that LAWA may want an Executive Director to remain up to speed on the Project and to be the source of information for LAWA stakeholders.

Categories/examples Garrison Diversion is willing to continue to provide at **NO COST** includes, but is not limited to, the following:

### ADMINISTRATION

Garrison Diversion employees, with salary and benefits paid by Garrison Diversion:

- Duane DeKrey, General Manager
- Merri Mooridian, Administrative Officer; Deputy Program Manager, RRVWSP Administration
- Kip Kovar, District Engineer; Deputy Program Manager, RRVWSP Engineering
- Kimberly Cook, Communications Director
- Lisa Schafer, Executive Assistant
- Stacey Gussiaas, Administrative Assistant
- Scott Mehring, Field Services Supervisor

### FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Garrison Diversion staff can continue all accounting aspects for LAWA, which includes processing payments, creating and updating the LAWA budget, presenting the LAWA Budget to the LAWA Board of Directors, reconciling bank statements and preparing information the bi-annual Agreed Upon Procedures (financial audit).

Staff can collect dues payments prepare and mails dues letters and statements, as well as collects and track dues payments.

### MEETING SUPPORT

LAWA hosts multiple Board meetings, TAC, and FAC meetings each year. Garrison Diversion will provide administrative support in the terms of scheduling and coordinating meeting dates, developing meeting agendas, collecting the materials, compiling books/packets and mailing or posting the information for board and committee members to access for meetings. Meeting minutes will be completed and finalized.

## **COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION SUPPORT**

Garrison Diversion will continue to manage the RRVWSP and LAWA websites, and cover administrative and hosting costs. Social media maintenance will also continue for the RRVWSP.

Additionally, Garrison Diversion will continue to pay conference fees and sponsorships for 6 conferences per year at \$400-600 each, as well as staff each event for the required timeframe.

Display pieces, brochures, presentations, promotion, and other necessary educational items will continue to be developed by Garrison Diversion and the AE2S Communications team as needed, in collaboration with LAWA.

## **CONSTRUCTION**

Garrison Diversion will continue to oversee the bidding process for pipeline and facilities construction, which includes bid advertising, opening and awarding contracts.

Garrison Diversion will continue to supervise construction of the RRVWSP by providing a ‘boots on the ground’ contact for contractors and landowners involved in the RRVWSP. Scott Mehring, Field Services Supervisor, currently holds this position.

## **LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT**

Garrison Diversion staff and leadership will continue to collaborate with LAWA to pay the costs of organizing and providing testimony, presentations, leadership and presence at the capital during each legislative session, in addition to continued legislator engagement outside of the regular sessions. Garrison Diversion will support and encourage participation of LAWA stakeholder representatives in this process.

## **ENGINEERING**

The Garrison Diversion team will help lead and direct the Engineering Team. The engineering team will stay on the front line for final design of the Biota Water Treatment Plant and 2 pump stations, as well as continuing to direct operations of the McClusky Canal, pipeline, reservoirs and rivers.

Garrison Diversion will collaborate with LAWA and keep LAWA updated through participation in TAC and at LAWA Board meetings. LAWA stakeholders’ consultants will be encouraged to be part of the engineering team.

## **LEADERSHIP**

Leadership will continue to collaborate with LAWA to work with outside agencies, building on the positive working relationships that have grown as a result of decades of cooperation - DWR, USACE, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Water Quality, NDDOT, ND Lands Department, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and ND Game & Fish, among others.

**AMENDMENT TO CLIENT – AE2S LETTER AGREEMENT  
Amendment No. 2**

The Effective Date of this Amendment is: January 1, 2026.

Background Data

Effective Date of Client – AE2S Letter Agreement: June 27, 2024

Client: Lake Agassiz Water Authority

AE2S: Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC

Project: LAWA 2025 Legislative Strategy Support

Nature of Amendment:

- X Modifications of payment to AE2S
- X Modifications to time(s) for rendering services

Description of Modifications:

- a. AE2S shall render services stated in this Amendment on an hourly basis in accordance with the Hourly Fee Schedule attached hereto, not to exceed \$66,000.00 without written authorization from Client, plus reimbursement for all project related expenses.
- b. The schedule for rendering services under this Amendment is modified as follows:
  - Strategic support and communications services will be extended to March 31, 2026

Agreement Summary:

Original agreement amount:	\$ 145,778
Net change for prior amendments:	\$ 88,000
This amendment amount:	\$ 66,000 (including \$2,500 for expenses)
Adjusted Agreement amount:	\$ 299,778

The foregoing Agreement Summary is for reference only and does not alter the terms of the Agreement.

Client and AE2S hereby agree to modify the above-referenced Agreement as set forth in this Amendment. All provisions of the Agreement not modified by this or previous Amendments remain in effect.

CLIENT:  
Lake Agassiz Water Authority

AE2S:  
Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Print  
name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print  
name: Darrell Casteel  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Chief Operating Officer  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVANCED ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC**  
**2026 HOURLY FEE AND EXPENSE SCHEDULE**

Labor Rates\*

Administrative 1	\$73.00
Administrative 2	\$88.00
Administrative 3	\$103.00
Communications Specialist 1	\$117.00
Communications Specialist 2	\$137.00
Communications Specialist 3	\$158.00
Communications Specialist 4	\$190.00
Communications Specialist 5	\$210.00
Financial Analyst 1	\$126.00
Financial Analyst 2	\$142.00
Financial Analyst 3	\$171.00
Financial Analyst 4	\$187.00
Financial Analyst 5	\$209.00
Project Coordinator 1	\$130.00
Project Coordinator 2	\$145.00
Project Coordinator 3	\$162.00
Project Coordinator 4	\$178.00
Project Coordinator 5	\$201.00
Project Manager 1	\$229.00
Project Manager 2	\$251.00
Project Manager 3	\$269.00
Project Manager 4	\$284.00
Project Manager 5	\$303.00
Project Manager 6	\$317.00
Sr. Designer 1	\$199.00
Sr. Designer 2	\$221.00
Sr. Designer 3	\$238.00
Sr. Financial Analyst 1	\$236.00
Sr. Financial Analyst 2	\$257.00
Sr. Financial Analyst 3	\$279.00

**Reimbursable Expense Rates**

Transportation	\$0.83/mile
Survey Vehicle	\$1.05/mile
Laser Printouts/Photocopies	\$0.30/copy
Plotter Printouts	\$1.00/s.f.
UAS - Photo/Video Grade	\$100.00/day
UAS/USV – Survey	\$50.00/hour
Total Station – Robotic	\$35.00/hour
Mapping GPS	\$60.00/day
Fast Static/RTK GPS	\$50.00/hour
All-Terrain Vehicle/Boat	\$100.00/day
Cellular Modem	\$75.00/month
Web Hosting	\$26.00/month
Legal Services Reimbursement	\$302.00/hour
Outside Services	cost * 1.15
Geotechnical Services	cost * 1.30
Out of Pocket Expenses	cost * 1.15
Rental Car	cost * 1.20
Project Specific Equipment	Negotiable

\* Position titles are for labor rate grade purposes only.

These rates are subject to adjustment each year on January 1.



## 2025 to 2027 Biennium Work Plan

(\$273.33M Total Funding: \$0.00 Federal; \$205.00M State; \$68.33M Local Users (Series F))

December 4, 2025

No.	Scope of Work	Feature	Date Task Orders Auth	Note	2025-27 Bien ENDAWS Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Constr Budget (mil \$) <sup>1,2,3</sup>		
					Total	Fed/Sta 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%
	<b>Garrison Diversion Conservancy District Budget</b> Scope: Account for all costs for which Garrison Diversion is responsible and not included in other Task Orders listed here. Need: Budget allocation for GDCD direct costs associated with the Red River Valley Water Supply Project.	Garrison Diversion's costs for the RRVWSP.	--	GDCD				\$ 1.00	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.25			
	<b>Property, Easements, and Crop Damage Payments<sup>4</sup></b> Scope: Crop damage payments to landowners and easement costs. Need: Treat landowners right and live up to commitments.	Easements for Washburn transmission main. Pay for crop damages program wide.	--	Crp Dmg				\$ 1.82	\$ 1.37	\$ 0.46			
	<b>Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline Contract 6B</b> Scope: Pipeline installation, including construction phase engineering services by Engineer. Need: Continue progress of transmission pipeline installation for completion of RRVWSP by the target end date.	9.2± mi of 72" pl, including one 96" tunnel. Pipeline extends east from Contract 6A northeast of Kensal to a termination point southeast of Glenfield.	TO 5662 Jul-25	TO 5562 Prof Srvs Const, 2028 Fin							\$ 5.86	\$ 4.39	\$ 1.46
	<b>Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline Contract 6C</b> Scope: Pipeline installation, including construction phase engineering services by Engineer. Need: Continue progress of transmission pipeline installation for completion of RRVWSP by the target end date.	8.4± miles of 72" pl, including three 96" tunnels. Pipeline section extends east from Ct 6B near Glenfield to a termination point south of Sutton.	TO 5662 Jul-25	TO 5563 Prof Srvs Const, 2028 Fin							\$ 6.20	\$ 4.65	\$ 1.55
	<b>Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline Contract 7A</b> Scope: Pipeline installation, including construction phase engineering services by Engineer. Need: Continue progress of transmission pipeline installation for completion of RRVWSP by the target end date.	6.5± mi of 72" pl, including three 96" tunnels. Pl section extends east from Ct 6C near Sutton to a termination point south of Cooperstown.	TO 5662 Jul-25	TO 5571 Prof Srvs Const, 2028 Fin							\$ 5.67	\$ 4.25	\$ 1.42
	<b>McClusky Facilities Final Design Services &amp; Bidding Assist</b> Scope: Final designs for McClusky Intake Pumping Station, Biota WTP, and McClusky Main Pumping Station. Need: Complete design so bids can be obtained for constructing the facilities.	165-cfs biota WTP, with chlorine and UV disinfection to meet NDPDES permit and FEIS requirements per Reclamation. Chloramines for residual disinfectant in pipeline.	TO 3310 Oct-25	Prof Srvs	\$ 15.00	\$ 11.25	\$ 3.75						
	<b>MO River Pumping Sta, Trans Main, &amp; Utilities Ext Ct 3</b> Scope: Final design, construction, and construction phase services for pumping station and transmission pl for Washburn. Need: Advance design, obtain bids, and construct new raw water supply for City of Washburn.	Raw water pumping station and transmission main from Missouri River Pumping Station to the City of Washburn water treatment plant.	TO 2340 Jan-27	Prof Srvs	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.10						



## 2025 to 2027 Biennium Work Plan

(\$273.33M Total Funding: \$0.00 Federal; \$205.00M State; \$68.33M Local Users (Series F))

December 4, 2025

No.	Scope of Work	Feature	Date Task Orders Auth	Note	2025-27 Bien ENDAWS Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Constr Budget (mil \$) <sup>1,2,3</sup>		
					Total	Fed/Sta 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%
8.	<b>McClusky Facilities Wetwell Excavation &amp; Site Dev Ct 1</b> Scope: Construction and construction phase services for initial project at greenfield site. Need: Prepare site and ready it for future construction of the biota water treatment plant.	Access road improvements from Highway 200 north to the future biota water treatment plant site. Mass excavation of site and excavation of intake ps shaft.	TO 2660										
			Apr-26	Prof Srvs					\$ 1.90	\$ 1.43	\$ 0.48		
9.	<b>McClusky Facilities Intake, Tunnel, &amp; Shaft Liner Ct 2</b> Scope: Final design services and bidding assistance for second construction project at the facilities site. Need: Complete specialty work ahead of the main biota water treatment plant construction.	Passive intake screens/structure on the McClusky Canal along with a 72" tunnel to the shaft/pumping station wetwell. Concrete shaft liner inside circular shaft excavated under Ct 1.	TO 2360										
			Jan-26	Prof Srvs	2.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 0.50						
10.	<b>McClusky Facilities Utility Extensions Design</b> Scope: Final design services and bidding assistance for power, natural gas, water utility extensions to the new sites. Need: There is no 3-phase power available at the site so one needs to be developed to supply power needs of new facility.	Electrical system design to support a new power supply to the biota water treatment plant and associated ps along with the new ground storage reservoirs site.	TO 3320										
			Jan-26	Prof Srvs	1.50	\$ 1.13	\$ 0.38				\$ 3.00	\$ 2.25	\$ 0.75
11.	<b>PMIS Annual Licenses &amp; Continued Maint/Upgrades</b> Scope: Annual software license renewal for expanded team and consulting support for training and configuration services. Need: Create greater efficiency and documentation for significant amount of construction related documents.	Vendor fees (e-Builder & DocuSign) for licenses of expanded team and consulting support for training of GCs/subs and workflow/report additions and mods.	TO 1630										
			Sep-25	Prof Srvs				\$ 0.69	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.17			
12.	<b>Program Management Support</b> Scope: Overall program management, planning, budgeting, scheduling, and other support for Garrison Diversion. Need: Consulting services of a broad programmatic nature not included under project-specific design or construction TOs.	Overall planning, management, administration, scheduling, budgeting, coordination, meeting preparation/attendance, regulatory interface, reporting, etc.	TO 1610										
			Oct-25	Prof Srvs				\$ 0.75	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.19			
13.	<b>Project Participation Agreement Support</b> Scope: User briefings and necessary support, including conceptual designs, to secure project commitments. Need: Define pipeline extensions to identify for users how and at what cost water will be delivered to their communities.	Size pipelines, pumping stations, channels, storage, etc. and other necessary infrastructure to deliver raw water to end users. Update CapEx estimates to reflect market.	TO 9610										
			Oct-25	Prof Srvs				\$ 2.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 0.50			
14.	<b>Operational Planning Phase 4</b> Scope: System modeling, evaluation, planning, and report development documenting results/findings/outcomes. Need: Finalize Garrison Diversion, State Water Commission, and USACE roles for system operation.	Refine details of diversions to/from Lake Ashtabula. Finalize stakeholder roles and responsibilities as it relates to system operation.	TO 1620										
			Oct-25	Prof Srvs				\$ 1.50	\$ 1.13	\$ 0.38			



## 2025 to 2027 Biennium Work Plan

(\$273.33M Total Funding: \$0.00 Federal; \$205.00M State; \$68.33M Local Users (Series F))

December 4, 2025

No.	Scope of Work	Feature	Date Task Orders Auth	Note	2025-27 Bien ENDAWS Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Development Budget (mil \$)			2025-27 Biennium RRVWSP Project Constr Budget (mil \$) <sup>1,2,3</sup>		
					Total	Fed/Sta 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%	Total	State 75%	Local 25%
15.	<b>Financial Planning Support</b> Scope: Continue to refine the financial model and provide scenarios as required to support users and the program. Need: Accurate water bill estimates and affordability for customers are necessary to gain approval from users.	Update financial models; address state loan and financing program changes; end user funding, financing, and cost-share analyses; continued funding and finance outreach.	TO 8610 Oct-25	Prof Svcs				\$ 0.60	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.15			
16.	<b>Contingency</b> Scope: A budget reserve for task order additions to professional services, construction, legal, real estate, etc. TOs. Need: Address and pay for changes that are sure to occur.	Budget flexibility to adapt to work plan changes and to pay for construction change orders typically running from 3 to 5% of original construction costs at bid time.	N/A	GDGD	\$ 0.93	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.11	\$ 18.38	\$ 13.78	\$ 4.59
					\$ 19.43	\$ 14.57	\$ 4.86	\$ 9.20	\$ 6.90	\$ 2.30	\$ 244.70	\$ 183.53	\$ 61.18
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET</b>													

**Notes:**

1. Construction costs include management, engineering services during construction, inspection, field quality control, and construction.
2. Projects indicated for construction funding in a given biennium will be shovel ready for construction at the start of the biennium.
3. Future capital costs are escalated to an anticipated midpoint of construction per Finance Team rates of 7, 6, 5, 5, and 3.5 percent per annum thereafter starting in 2022 with an anticipated 2032 finish. All future RRVWSP construction projects and costs are not shown.
4. Land services costs are the amount likely to be paid for real estate, easements, including bonus payments, crop damages, and field obstructions. Estimates include pipeline easements required for the Washburn transmission main and remaining easements on pipeline Contracts 1 through 4 in Sheridan and Wells Counties.
5. Items appearing in blue bold are progressing with task orders and contracts issued to the engineering team and contractors, respectively. Items appearing in blue italics have been updated to reflect adjustments made for actual amounts contracted. Items shown in black text are pending. Items highlighted in yellow have changed from the previous version of the Work Plan.

## CHANGE ORDER

Change Order No. 7 - Final

DATE OF ISSUANCE December 19, 2025      EFFECTIVE DATE December 19, 2025

Owner: Garrison Diversion Conservancy District  
 Contractor: Garney Companies  
 Project: Red River Valley Water Supply Project, Transmission Pipeline East  
 Owner's Contract No.: 5B  
 Owner's Task Order No.: 5532

The Contract is modified as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

**Change Order Requests (CORs) Description:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Days</u>		<u>Amount</u>	<u>Days</u>
1. 2024 Crop Damage Reimbursement	(\$66,837.02)	--	12. COR38 Road Maintenance May 2025	\$47,230.76	--
2. <del>2025 Crop Damage Reimbursement</del>	<del>(\$36,343.51)</del>	<del>--</del>	13. <del>COR43 Road Maintenance Jun-Sept 2025</del>	<del>\$36,288.50</del>	<del>--</del>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>(\$103,180.53)</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$83,519.26</i>	<i>--</i>
3. COR13: Deflected Pipe Credit (>2%)	(\$11,000.00)	--	14. COR39 Cathodic Protection System RMU	\$14,137.88	--
4. COR16: ROW Drainage July 2024	\$13,572.63	2	15. COR40 Access Drive Modifications	(\$54,685.99)	--
5. COR 26 ROW Drainage Aug 2024	\$10,834.50	--	16. COR42 Topsoil Maintenance June 2025	\$2,289.60	--
6. COR29: ROW Drainage Sept 2024	\$10,566.31	--	17. <del>COR45 Topsoil Maintenance Aug 2025</del>	<del>\$572.40</del>	<del>--</del>
7. COR32: ROW Drainage Oct 2024	\$10,834.50	--	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$2,862.00</i>	<i>--</i>
8. <del>COR35: ROW Drainage Nov 2024</del>	<del>\$9,371.88</del>	<del>--</del>	18. 2023-24 Winter Season Ext (10/31/23 to 4/30/24)	--	182
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$55,179.82</i>	<i>2</i>	19. Additional Inspection & Const Admin	(\$768,000.00)	--
9. COR37: Offs Dwtr Disch F-May '25	\$114,757.82	6	20. Reconciliation Bid Items 14, 19, 20, 22, 32 to Actual Quantities	(\$277,170.00)	--
10. COR41: Offs Dwtr Disch Jun '25	\$51,089.63	4			
11. <del>COR44: Offs Dwtr Disch Jul-O '25</del>	<del>\$153,633.66</del>	<del>13</del>			
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$319,481.11</i>	<i>23</i>	<b>GRAND TOTAL CHANGE ORDER NO. 7</b>	<b>(\$738,856.45)</b>	<b>207</b>

**Attachments:** Crop damage notifications; Garney COR Nos. 13, 16, 26, 29, 32, 35, 37 to 45.

**CHANGE IN CONTRACT PRICE:**

**CHANGE IN CONTRACT TIMES:**

Original Contract Price:  
\$45,961,700.00

Increase from previously approved Change Order Nos. 1 to 6:  
\$2,575,668.87

Contract Price prior to this Change Order:  
\$48,537,368.87

Decrease of this Change Order:  
(\$738,856.45)

Contract Price incorporating this Change Order:  
\$47,798,512.42  
(4.0% Increase Over Original Contract Price)

Original Contract Times:  
Substantial Completion: September 30, 2023  
Ready for final payment: November 29, 2023  
(days or dates)

Increase from previously approved Change Order Nos. 1 to 6:  
Substantial Completion: 122  
Ready for final payment: 122  
(days)

Contract Times prior to this Change Order:  
Substantial Completion: January 30, 2024  
Ready for final payment: March 30, 2024  
(days or dates)

Increase of this Change Order:  
Substantial Completion: 207  
Ready for final payment: 207  
(days)

Contract Times with all approved Change Orders:  
Substantial Completion: August 24, 2024  
Ready for final payment: October 23, 2024  
(days or dates)

ACCEPTED:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner (Authorized Signature)

Printed: Duane DeKrey

Title: General Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCEPTED:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor (Authorized Signature)

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHANGE ORDER

Change Order No. 2

DATE OF ISSUANCE December 19, 2025

EFFECTIVE DATE December 19, 2025

Owner: Garrison Diversion Conservancy District

Contractor: Oscar Renda Contracting, Inc.

Project: Red River Valley Water Supply Project, Transmission Pipeline East

Owner's Contract No.: 5C

Owner's Task Order No.: 5533

The Contract is modified as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

**Change Description**

This Change Order will move allowance funds from Bid Item 30 – Artificial Trench Foundation (Allowance), which is significantly underrunning estimated quantities of the Bid Form (2.1% used to date with job about 85% complete), to fund additive Change Order Request (COR) No. 2 in the amount of \$581,317.60 and associated time extensions as follows:

- 241 days added to Milestone Completion (provides a 2025-26 winter season extension of 181 days)
- 90 days added to Substantial Completion
- 60 days added to Ready for Final Payment

The extra work is associated with the Alliance Pipeline / Pembina natural gas line crossing just west of the James River. This cost increase is to account for tunnel casing pipe factory coating (twice the normal thickness (70 mils) to provide galvanic isolation between the steel tunnel casing and the adjacent steel gas line) required of the gas company, general contractor and subcontractor standby time, and general contractor and subcontractor re-excavation costs at the tunnel jacking and receiving shafts on either side of the large diameter gas line.

COR2 Increase – Pembina Gas Line Crossing Changes and Delay	\$581,317.60
<u>Bid Item 30 Decrease – Artificial Trench Foundation (Allowance)</u>	<u>(\$581,317.60)</u>
Net Change in Contract Price	\$0.00

**Attachments:** Change Order Request No. 2.

**CHANGE IN CONTRACT PRICE:**

**CHANGE IN CONTRACT TIMES:**

Original Contract Price:

Original Contract Times:

\$76,663,355.00

Milestone Completion: October 31, 2025  
 Substantial Completion: May 29, 2026  
 Ready for final payment: July 31, 2026  
 (days or dates)

Change from previously approved Change Order No. 1:

Change from previously approved Change Order No. 1:

\$0.00

Milestone Completion: 0  
 Substantial Completion: 0  
 Ready for final payment: 0  
 (days)

Contract Price prior to this Change Order:

Contract Times prior to this Change Order:

\$76,663,355.00

Milestone Completion: October 31, 2025  
 Substantial Completion: May 29, 2026  
 Ready for final payment: July 31, 2026  
 (days or dates)

No change this Change Order:

Increase of this Change Order:

\$0.00

Milestone Completion: 241  
 Substantial Completion: 90  
 Ready for final payment: 60  
 (days)

Contract Price incorporating this Change Order:

Contract Times with all approved Change Orders:

\$76,663,355.00  
 (0.0% Increase Over Original Contract Price)

Milestone Completion: June 29, 2026  
 Substantial Completion: August 27, 2026  
 Ready for final payment: September 29, 2026  
 (days or dates)

ACCEPTED:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner (Authorized Signature)

Printed: Duane DeKrey

Title: General Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCEPTED:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor (Authorized Signature)

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Black & Veatch Corporation**  
8800 Ward Parkway, Suite 400, Kansas City, MO 64114  
P +1 913-458-3571 E RonnekampKA@bv.com

December 4, 2025

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District  
Red River Valley Water Supply Project  
Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline  
Task Orders 5562/5663, Contracts 6B and 6C

BV Project 188972/409655  
BV File 55.5562.5

Mr. Duane DeKrey  
General Manager  
PO Box 140  
Carrington, ND 58421

Dear Mr. DeKrey:

This letter provides the bid results and a recommendation of award for the Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline, Contract 6B and 6C projects to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. (Carstensen) of Dell Rapids, South Dakota.

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District held a bid opening at its Carrington office on November 19, 2025, at 2 p.m. local time. A total of three bids were received for each contract; all bids were opened and read aloud. The bid results are as follows:

**Table 1 – Bid Tabulation Summary**

Contractor	Contract 6B (~9.2 miles of 72" pipe)	Contract 6C (~8.4 miles of 72" pipe)	Discount Provided for Combined Contracts 6B and 6C	Grand Total Contract 6B + Contract 6C (~17.6 miles of 72" pipe)
Carstensen Contracting, Inc. Dell Rapids, SD	\$62,470,010	\$66,271,939	\$3,000,000	\$125,741,949
Harper Brothers Construction, LLC Houston, TX	\$65,904,130	\$71,058,634	\$965,000	\$135,997,764
Belt Construction, Inc. Texarkana, AR	\$74,214,382	\$80,087,609	-	-
Engineer's Cost Opinion	\$69,313,323	\$74,899,389		\$144,212,712

**Table 2 – Contract 6B Bid Price Evaluation Summary**

Contractor	Total Base Bid	Comparison to Engineer's Estimate
Carstensen Contracting, Inc. Dell Rapids, SD	\$62,470,010	-\$6,843,313: -11%
Harper Brothers Construction, LLC Houston, TX	\$65,904,130	-\$3,409,193: -5.2%
Belt Construction, Inc. Texarkana, AR	\$74,214,382	+4,901,059: +7.1%
Engineer's Cost Opinion	\$69,313,323	--

**Table 3 – Contract 6C Bid Price Evaluation Summary**

Contractor	Total Base Bid	Comparison to Engineer's Estimate
Carstensen Contracting, Inc. Dell Rapids, SD	\$66,271,939	-\$8,267,450: -13%
Harper Brothers Construction, LLC Houston, TX	\$71,058,634	-\$3,840,755: -5.4%
Belt Construction, Inc. Texarkana, AR	\$80,087,609	+\$5,188,220: +9.4%
Engineer's Cost Opinion	\$74,899,389	--

For both Contracts 6B and 6C Carstensen Contracting, Inc. of Dell Rapids, South Dakota submitted the apparent low bids. Harper Brothers Construction LLC of Houston, Texas submitted the apparent second low bid for each contract. In addition, both Carstensen Contracting and Harper Brothers Construction offered discounts of \$3,000,000 and \$965,000, respectively, if awarded both contracts. Belt Construction's bids indicated that it did not intend to be awarded both contracts, just one or the other.

#### **EVALUATION OF THE APPARENT LOW BIDDER'S BIDS**

The engineer's opinion of probable construction cost (cost opinion) for the Project prepared by Black & Veatch for the Base Bid of Contract 6B was \$69,313,323. Two bidders had a lower Bid, and one bidder had a higher Bid than Black & Veatch's cost opinion. There was a \$6,843,313 or 11 percent difference between the apparent low bid and Black & Veatch's cost opinion. The cost opinion was \$1,783,316 or 2.6 percent higher than the average of the three bids received.

The engineer's opinion of probable construction cost for the Project prepared by Black & Veatch for the Base Bid of Contract 6C was \$74,899,399. Two bidders had a lower Bid, and one bidder had a higher Bid than the Black & Veatch's cost opinion. There was a \$8,627,450 or 13 percent difference between the apparent low bid and Black & Veatch's cost opinion. The cost opinion was \$2,426,662 or 3.3 percent higher than the average of the three bids received.

A comparison of the Bids shows that the overall low Bidder for both Contracts 6B and 6C also offered the largest deduction for receiving the award of both contracts. As indicated in the previous discussion and shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3, there is a noticeable difference in the low bidder's bids and those of the other bidders. Because of this noticeable difference, Black & Veatch contacted the apparent low bidder to verify there were no errors made in preparation of its bid. Carstensen confirmed it did not have any errors in its bid, and it is standing by its bids for both Contract 6B and 6C and its combined bid for award of both contracts of \$125,741,949. Bidders were given 24 hours to withdrawal a bid due to a substantiated error, with return of the bid security. Garrison Diversion nor the Engineer received such notice.

Based on discussions with the apparent low bidder following the bid opening, it is Black & Veatch's opinion that Carstensen Contracting, Inc. has a good understanding of the Projects and the key elements thereof. A review of their unit prices indicates a distribution like other bidders. The spread between the low and second low came down to Carstensen's documented efficiency, rate of pipe installation, and continuing favorable terms from its steel pipe supplier, Northwest Pipe. The approximate \$10.2 million difference, between the low and the second low for both Contract 6B and 6C is captured primarily in the difference in the installed price of the 72-inch transmission pipeline

in favor of Carstensen and somewhat offset by Carstensen's higher unit prices for asphalt road overlay and trench groundwater control.

### **EVALUATION OF THE APPARENT LOW BIDDER'S QUALIFICATIONS**

In 2023, Garrison Diversion undertook a general contractor prequalification process, where seven general contractors were prequalified for its projects, including Carstensen Contracting, Inc. and the second low bidder Harper Brothers. Hence, a general contractor qualification submittal was not required of either Carstensen or Harper Brothers for the Bid. In addition, Carstensen is currently the contractor performing the construction work on Contracts 5D and 6A and is performing the work satisfactorily and on schedule.

For tunneling, Contract 6B includes one wetland trenchless crossing and Contract 6C includes two wetland trenchless crossings and one railroad (BNSF) trenchless crossing. Both Carstensen and Harper Brothers listed Minger Construction as their tunneling subcontractor. Minger Construction has previously been prequalified as an acceptable tunneling subcontractor and has performed all the tunneling work satisfactorily on previous Contract 5A, and current Contracts 5B, 5C, 5D, and 6A.

### **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

Given the Engineer's review of the bids, the prequalification of Carstensen Contracting, Inc. as a pipeline general contractor for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project, and their current work on Contracts 5D and 6A, Black & Veatch recommends Garrison Diversion award both Contracts 6B and 6C to the low bidder, Carstensen Contracting, Inc. for its Total Bid, with deduct for both award of both contracts, in the amount of \$125,741,949.

Should both Projects be awarded to Carstensen, they would be administered separately and the \$3,000,000 deduct would be distributed through the unit and lump sum prices for each contract. The award of both contracts is lower than the 2025-2027 Biennium Work Plan budget allocation and below the Engineer's cost opinion.

If you concur with Black & Veatch's recommendation, a Notice of Award and Limited Notice to Proceed (permitting Carstensen to buy steel coil for the pipe and to begin preparation of pipe submittals) will be prepared and forwarded to for signature. In addition, conformed copies of the Contract Documents, including the Agreement and required bonds, will be prepared and forwarded to Carstensen for execution.

If you have any questions concerning this Recommendation of Award for the subject projects, please contact us.

Sincerely,  
BLACK & VEATCH CORPORATION



Kurt A. Ronnekamp  
Program Manager

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Merri Mooridian, GDCD; Mr. Kip Kovar, GDCD; Mr. Paul Boersma, BV; File



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December 4, 2025

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District  
Red River Valley Water Supply Project  
Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline  
Task Orders 5571, Contract 7A

BV Project 188972/415096  
BV File 55.5571.5

Mr. Duane DeKrey  
General Manager  
PO Box 140  
Carrington, ND 58421

Dear Mr. DeKrey:

This letter provides the bid results and a recommendation of award for the Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline, Contract 7A project to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. (Carstensen) of Dell Rapids, South Dakota.

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District held a bid opening at its Carrington office on November 21, 2025, at 2 p.m. local time. A total of four bids were received for the contract; all bids were opened and read aloud. The bid results are as follows:

**Table 1 – Bid Tabulation Summary**

Contractor	Contract 7A (~4.5 miles of 72" pipe) Base Bid	Additive Bid Alternative No. 1	Total of Base Bid and Additive Alt. No. 1	Additive Bid Alternative No. 2	Grand Total of Base Bid and Additive Bid Alt. 1 and 2
Carstensen Contracting, Inc. Dell Rapids, SD	\$36,034,917	\$6,777,640	\$42,812,557	\$16,147,435	\$58,959,992
Belt Construction, Inc. Texarkana, AR	\$40,651,254	\$9,341,690	\$49,992,944	\$16,730,289	\$66,723,233
Harper Brothers Construction, LLC, Houston, TX	\$39,313,289	\$7,468,300	\$46,781,589	\$19,438,497	\$66,220,086
Ruby-Collins, Inc. Smyrna, GA	\$59,568,261	\$9,560,043	\$69,128,304	\$22,728,565	\$91,856,869
Engineer's Cost Opinion*	\$38,470,742	\$7,334,003	\$45,804,745	\$17,428,133	\$63,232,878

\*Engineer's Cost Opinion rounded to nearest dollar amount.

**Table 2 – Contract 7A Bid Price Evaluation Summary**

Contractor	Total Base Bid + Bid Alt. 1 and 2	Comparison to Engineer's Estimate
Carstensen Contracting, Inc., Dell Rapids, SD	\$58,959,992	-\$4,272,886: -7.3%
Belt Construction, Inc., Texarkana, AR	\$66,723,233	+\$3,490,355: +5.5%
Harper Brothers Construction, LLC, Houston, TX	\$66,220,086	+2,987,208: +4.7%
Ruby-Collins, Inc., Smyrna, GA	\$91,856,869	+28,623,991: +45%
Engineer's Cost Opinion	\$63,232,878	--

For Contract 7A, for the Base Bid, and for the combinations of Base Bid + Bid Alternate 1 and Base Bid + Bid Alternates 1 and 2, Carstensen Contracting, Inc. of Dell Rapids, South Dakota submitted the apparent low bid for the Base Bid and for each combination of Bid Alternatives. Harper Brothers Construction, LLC of Houston, Texas submitted the apparent second low bid for the Base Bid and for each combination of Bid Alternatives.

### **EVALUATION OF THE APPARENT LOW BIDDER'S BID**

The engineer's opinion of probable construction cost (cost opinion) for the Project prepared by Black & Veatch for the Base Bid + Bid Alternatives 1 and 2 of Contract 7A was \$63,232,878. One bidder had a lower Bid, and three bidders had a higher Bid than Black & Veatch's cost opinion. There was a \$4,272,886 or 7.3 percent difference between the apparent low bid for the Base Bid + Bid Alternatives 1 and 2 and Black & Veatch's cost opinion. The cost opinion was \$734,892 or 1.2 percent lower than the average of the three lowest bids received.

As indicated in the previous discussion and shown in Tables 1 and 2, there is a noticeable difference in the low-bidder's bids and those of the other bidders. Because of this noticeable difference, and the fact that Carstensen was the apparent low bidder on Contracts 6B and 6C, Black & Veatch contacted the apparent low bidder to verify there were no errors made in preparation of its bid. Carstensen confirmed it did not have any errors in its bid, and it is standing by its bids for Contract 7A and the 7A Bid Alternatives for award of the grand total bid + alternatives of \$58,959,992. Bidders were given 24 hours to withdrawal a bid due to a substantiated error, with return of the bid security. Garrison Diversion nor the Engineer received such notice.

Based on discussions with the apparent low bidder following the bid opening, it is Black & Veatch's opinion that Carstensen Contracting, Inc., has a good understanding of the Project and the key elements thereof. A review of their unit prices indicates a distribution like other bidders. The spread between the low and second low seemed to come down to Carstensen's documented efficiency and rate of pipe installation. The lowest three bidders were close on Bid items 2, 29 and 49, the unit price for installed open-cut pipe. The approximate \$7.3 million difference, between the low and the second low for Contract 7A is captured primarily in the difference in the price for trenchless installation, removal and stockpiling of topsoil, the amount of deduct offered (bid item 27), and the differences in the Additive Bid Alternative costs.

### **EVALUATION OF THE APPARENT LOW BIDDER'S QUALIFICATIONS**

In 2023, Garrison Diversion undertook a general contractor prequalification process, where seven general contractors were prequalified for its projects, including Carstensen Contracting, Inc. and the second low bidder Harper Brothers. Hence, a general contractor qualification submittal was not required of either Carstensen or Harper Brothers for the Bid. In addition, Carstensen is currently the contractor performing the construction work on Contracts 5D and 6A and is performing the work satisfactorily and on schedule. Carstensen is also the apparent low bidder on recently bid Contracts 6B and 6C, so there could be potential concern that one construction company can handle all this work simultaneously. In discussions with Carstensen, they provided assurance that they have the staffing, equipment, and bonding capacity to handle these projects successfully.

For tunneling, Contract 7A includes three trenchless wetland crossings. Carstensen's bid listed Iowa Trenchless as its trenchless subcontractor. The second low bidder, Harper Brothers, listed Minger Construction as its trenchless subcontractor. While Minger Construction has been the trenchless subcontractor on all previous and current Red River contracts, Iowa Trenchless would be new to the project and therefore references for Iowa Trenchless were submitted with Carstensen's bid. We reached two of the most recent references from 2022 and 2024 projects in Iowa and Utah, respectively. Tunnel casing sizes for the two projects ranged from 79" to 101.5" so they compare

favorably to the 96" casings needed for this project. Both references were satisfied with the work of Iowa Trenchless and there were no schedule, cost, or other issues cited. We therefore recommend that Iowa Trenchless be accepted as the tunneling subcontractor for this project.

### **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

Given the Engineer's review of the bids, the prequalification of Carstensen Contracting, Inc. as a pipeline general contractor for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project, their current work on Contracts 5D and 6A, and their assurances they can handle multiple contracts, Black & Veatch recommends Garrison Diversion award Contract 7A including Bid Alternatives 1 and 2 to the low bidder, Carstensen Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$58,959,992.

Should the Project be awarded to Carstensen, the \$1,000,000 deduct indicated in the Base Bid would be distributed through the unit and lump sum prices for the contract. The award of this Contract 7A is lower than the 2025-2027 Biennium Work Plan budget allocation and below the Engineer's cost opinion.

If you concur with Black & Veatch's recommendation, a Notice of Award and Limited Notice to Proceed (permitting Carstensen to buy steel coil for the pipe and to begin preparation of pipe submittals) will be prepared and forwarded for signature. In addition, conformed copies of the Contract Documents, including the Agreement and required bonds, will be prepared and forwarded to Carstensen for execution.

If you have any questions concerning this Recommendation of Award for the subject project, please contact us.

Sincerely,  
BLACK & VEATCH CORPORATION



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Kurt A. Ronnekamp  
Program Manager

### Enclosures

cc: Ms. Merri Mooridian, GD CD  
Mr. Kip Kovar, GD CD  
Mr. Paul Boersma, BV  
File



**RRVWSP Task Order 5662 – Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline  
Contracts 6B, 6C, and 7A Construction Phase Services**

Task Order Effective Date: December 19, 2025

**TASK ORDER EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**REQUEST**

Consideration and approval of a construction phase services Task Order in the amount of \$17,125,000 associated with Garrison Diversion’s sixth, seventh, and eighth construction projects (RTP Contracts 6B, 6C, and 7A). The Task Order is for construction observation and engineering support during construction of a 24.1-mile segment of the RRVWSP transmission pipeline. Services are anticipated to begin in 4Q2025 and be completed by 4Q2028.

All professional services are provided on an hourly basis. The maximum fee is a labor and expenses estimate based on the scope and nature of the work and an anticipated 14 months of active pipeline installation and 6 months for testing, final easement restoration, and cleanup. No construction activity is expected to be undertaken from December to April of each year so field observation for this period is omitted.

The construction cost is \$184.7 million for the 24.1 miles of 72-inch pipeline, including trenchless crossings and not including any contingency monies. The projects advertised in late October 2025 with bid openings held in November 2025. Construction notice(s) to proceed will be issued in January 2026.

**TASK ORDER SUMMARY**

The services to be provided by the engineering and construction observation teams (Black & Veatch, AE2S, Prairie Soil Consulting, Ulteig Engineers, American Engineering Testing, Accurate Inspections, Moore Engineering, Stantec Consulting, Veteran Testing and Inspecting, Braun Intertec, and other firms) are fully described in the attached Task Order. The following summarizes the major tasks.

**Basic Services:** The estimated hourly fees and expenses for standard and customary construction phase services are as follows:

	Fee	% of Construction
Task Order Management and Administration	\$728,630.00	
Special and Third-Party Meetings	\$34,873.00	
Surveying, Field Testing, & Factory Inspection Services	\$2,954,605.00	
Engineering Services during Construction	\$2,195,064.00	
Construction Observation	\$11,211,828.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,125,000.00</b>	<b>9.3%</b>

**Special Services:** There are no unique or special services identified for this Task Order at this time.

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

RTP Contract 6B involves 9.2 miles of steel pipe connecting to the east end of Contract 6A northeast of Kensal continuing east with the segment ending southeast of Glenfield. Contract 6C involves 8.4 miles of pipe and will connect to Contract 6B heading east to a termination point south of Sutton. Contract 7A involves up to 6.5 miles of pipe and continues east and ending southwest of Cooperstown. The alignment and limits of the pipelines under this Task Order are shown on the figure included in the Task Order document. Key elements of the services are summarized as follows:



**RRVWSP Task Order 5662 – Red River Valley Transmission Pipeline  
Contracts 6B, 6C, and 7A Construction Phase Services**

Task Order Effective Date: December 19, 2025

**TASK ORDER EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Task 1 – Task Order Management and Administration** – This task includes overall project management and administrative services during the construction phase of the project and is consistent with services rendered under previous Task Orders.

**Task 2 – Special and Third-Party Meetings** – This task covers in-person meetings as needed with stakeholders including the State Engineer; Foster and Griggs County Commissioners; Eastman, Sutton, Revere, and Ball Hill Townships; Northern Plains Electric Cooperative; Greater Ramsey Water District; Stutsman Rural Water District; BEK Communications Cooperative; NODAK Electric Cooperative; Northern Plains Electric Cooperative; MLGC Cooperstown; Otter Tail Power; MidContinent Communications; Dakota Rural Water District, and Dakota Central Telecommunications.

**Task 3 – Surveying, Field Testing, and Factory Inspection Services** – This task consists of surveying, construction staking, services of a professional soil classifier for restoration, drone video of construction progression, pipe manufacture visits and on-site inspection of the manufacturing process and quality control/quality assurance procedures, corrosion protection system inspection and testing, services of an independent materials testing firm, and services of an independent weld verification firm.

**Task 4 – Engineering Services During Construction** – Consists of construction administration and engineering tasks during construction, review of shop drawings and submittals, review of progress payments, attendance at progress meetings, field visits by the engineering team, and close-out.

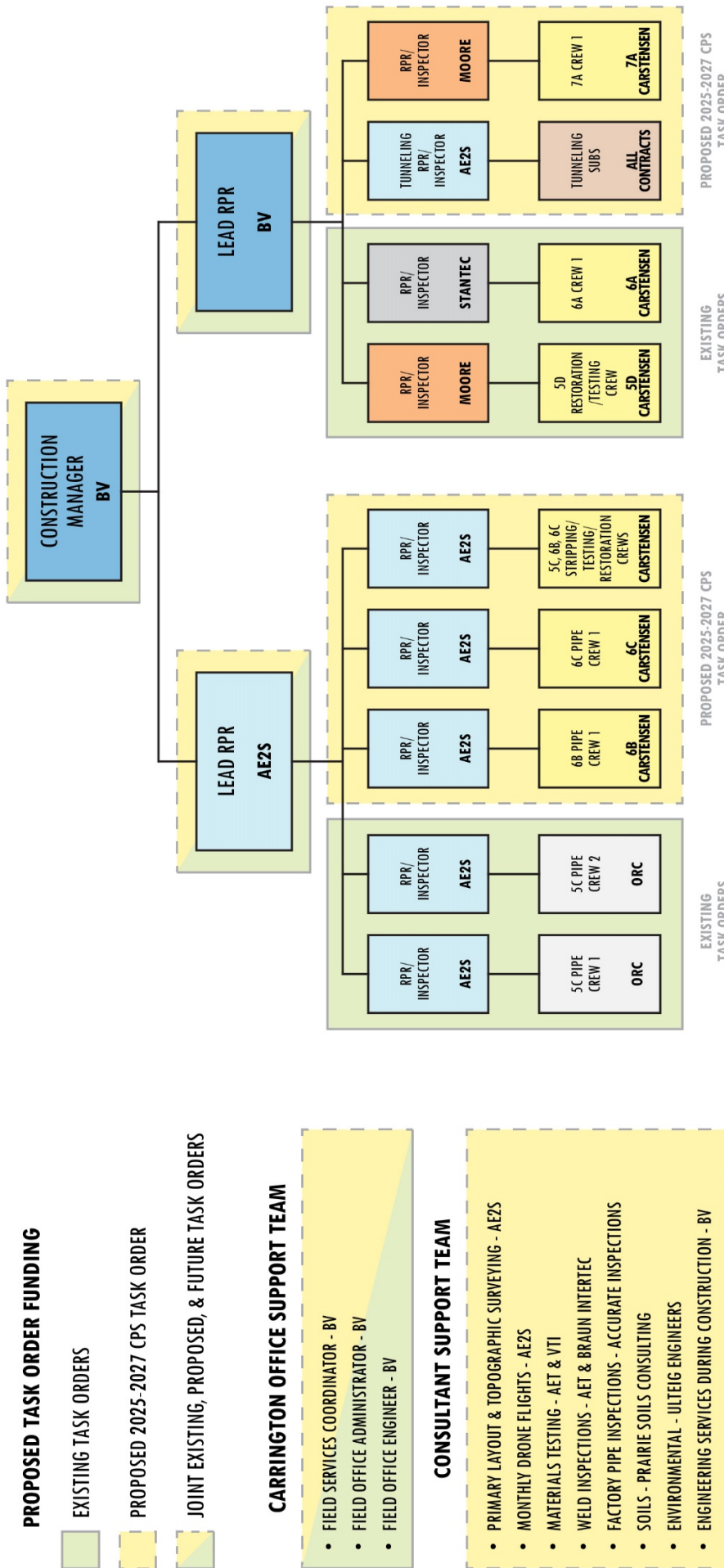
**Task 5 – Construction Observation** – Consists of the engineering team’s staff providing observation and reporting of the Contractors’ work for the anticipated 20 months of construction. BV staff will provide construction observation management, construction administration, and field engineering for the two projects. A lead resident project representative (Lead RPR) will oversee the work of each project and up to three RPRs will inspect pipeline installation (one for each pipe laying crew) during active pipeline installation. Three RPRs will observe testing, restoration, and cleanup activities until the project is complete. Finally, a tunnelling RPR will be provided for the installation of tunnel shafts and during tunneling trenchless crossings. RPR staff will generate daily reports for the pipeline and trenchless crossing activities, generate daily photo logs of the work progress, use global positioning system (GPS) equipment to collect real-time as-built data, and serve as a liaison between the contractor and the engineering team. See proposed field team organization in the figure that follows on the next page.

**RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

The following items in the specifications and/or in this Task Order scope of work are intended to mitigate potential risks associated with the installation of the three segments of the water transmission pipeline with total footage of 24.1 miles:

- Project specifications limit the amount of right-of-way that can be open at any time. The contractor will be limited to three miles of open right of way of which only two miles can include active pipeline installation. This limitation will require the Contractor to stabilize and restore the right of way area continuously within the project mitigating the impact to landowners from dust and from a property usability standpoint.

# CONSTRUCTION SERVICES ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND TASK ORDER FUNDING OVERVIEW



**RRVWSP Work Plan Update  
December 9, 2025**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**Pipeline Construction**

**Contract 5B**

Pipe installation was completed in 2024, and field restoration was completed this year on the nine-mile contract.

The teams are currently working through negotiations on final contract price.

To date, \$41,711,798.87 has been paid on the original contract amount of \$45,961,700.00. Change Orders No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been approved, leaving the current contract price at \$48,537,368.87.

**Contract 5C**

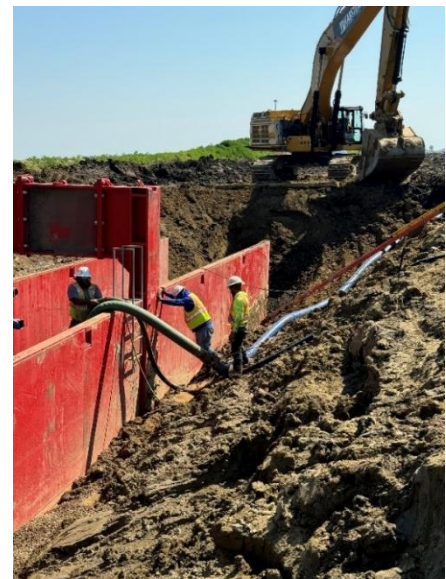
The contract price is \$76,663,355.00 for 8 miles of pipe awarded to Oscar Renda Contracting.

As their install targets were not being met, a second pipe crew started on July 10, and as of September 15, four crews are on site. Thus far, 36,922 feet has been installed. Tunneling subcontractor, Minger Contracting, has finished the James River and the Pembina high pressure gas line.

To date, \$49,857,174.08 has been paid on the original contract amount of \$76,663,355.00.



Stripping Topsoil



Trench Box w/ Dewatering Pipes

**Contract 5D**

The contract price is \$61,677,275.00 for 10 miles of pipe awarded to Carstensen Contracting. Thus far, the contractor has installed all 10 miles.

To date, \$51,446,741.28 has been paid on the original contract amount of \$61,677,275.00. Change Order No. 1 has been approved, leaving the current contract price at \$59,375,495.00.



Stored Pipe on Site



Placing Dewatering Pipe

**Contract 6A**

The contract price is \$52,528,500.00 for 7.1 miles of pipe awarded to Carstensen Contracting. Thus far, the contractor has installed 13,980 feet of pipe.

To date, \$20,876,384.06 has been paid on the original contract amount of \$52,528,500.00.

**DESIGN**

The design team is also working with Reclamation on the location for the BWTP and pump stations.

Final design efforts have started on ENDAWS Contracts 1 and 2. Additional geotechnical data is underway.

RRVWSP Awarded Contracts				
No.	Contract Name	Contractor	Bid Price	Final Contract Price
1	Missouri River Intake Wet Well & Site Development	ICS	\$4,989,405.88	\$4,721,446.47
1	Sheyenne River Outlet Discharge Structure & Site Development	Industrial Builders	\$1,516,955.00	\$1,521,884.00
2	Missouri River Intake, Screen Structure & Tunnel	Michels	\$18,896,900.00	\$19,444,156.60
5A	Transmission Pipeline East (TPE)	Garney	\$8,366,201.00	\$8,393,396.44
5B	TPE Carrington to Bordulac	Garney	\$45,961,700.00	
5D	TPE Sykeston to Carrington	Carstensen	\$61,677,275.00	
5C	TPE Bordulac to James River	Oscar Renda	\$76,663,355.00	
6A	TPE James River to McKinnon Township	Carstensen	\$52,528,500.00	